

ORIGIN ACTION

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**AIRGRAM**

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A-146

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PRIORITY  
HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RPTD INFO: DHAHRAN, JIDDA

1962 NOV 9 AM 11 23

(129)

Gm

FROM : Amembassy KUWAIT

DATE: November 3, 1962

SUBJECT : Kuwait Government Security Precautions Taken in View of Cuban Situation

REF

When I delivered the text of the President's message regarding the quarantine of Cuba to Shaikh SUBAH SALIM al-SUBAH, Kuwait's Minister of Foreign Affairs, I mentioned that I had suggested to the American oil companies (and others) operating in Kuwait and the Kuwait-Saudi Arabian Neutral Zone that it might be wise that they (1) take special unobtrusive security measures, and (2) be on the alert for any indications of hostility towards Americans or sabotage of American property arising from the tense situation over Cuba. I explained to the Foreign Minister that one never knew what to expect from the Communist organizations throughout the world and that I felt we should be alert to any attempts on the part of Communist organizations, particularly from Iraq, to sabotage the important oil installations in Kuwait. I emphasized, however, that I felt that such precautions should be taken quietly and without public notice being given to them. The Foreign Minister readily agreed that such security precautions were in order, and he said he would immediately get in touch with Shaikh SAAD, Minister of Interior, and initiate such precautions as seemed desirable.

I subsequently learned from various sources that the small Kuwait Air Force was immediately put on a 24-hour stand-by alert, and the check points between the Mutla Ridge and the Iraq border were closed to all traffic. The Kuwaiti Police Guards at the American Embassy Compound in Kuwait were likewise put on special alert. To my knowledge these special precautions are still in effect though it seems likely they will be relaxed soon.

The Kuwait Government's cooperation in this matter has been exemplary. Nothing has appeared in the local Press regarding the special security

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by: DSMak:mw 10/30/62

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances:

10/31/62

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/ME

REVIEWED BY: DATE

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( ) DOWNGRADE IS TO: ( ) S.C. ( ) C. OADR